

### ABSTRACT

A cover for a vacuum dewatering box that is formed from a plurality of blocks, each including a wear surface, is provided. At least some of the blocks are spaced apart to form at least one generally longitudinally oriented slot through the cover, with a shape and size of the at least one slot being determined by at least one of a location of and a shape of the blocks. Preferably, the at least one slot is formed with a zig-zag or herringbone pattern, and can be used on a suction box or Uhle box on a papermaking machine. A vacuum dewatering box having this type of cover is also provided.